

TOWN Reminder

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INDEX

Viewpoints	6
Neighbor News	7
Granby	9
Education	9
Sports	10
Public Notices	14
Classifieds	14

COMMUNITY, 7

Sewing Tag Sale by appointment



South Hadley celebrates Veterans Day

By Dalton Zbierski
Staff Writer

SOUTH HADLEY – Most everyone has sacrificed to some degree in 2020, but veterans of the United States Armed Forces have been sacrificing for centuries. Each November, the country goes to great lengths to honor all those who have fought for the freedoms granted to Americans.

Please see **SACRIFICE**, page 5



On the far right, Brian Willette, a South Hadley resident and Purple Heart recipient, salutes a fellow veteran while in the company of other veterans at the senior center.

Courtesy photo

SOUTH HADLEY, 15

Costume parade offers children a taste of normalcy



South Hadley sees COVID-19 'spike'

By Dalton Zbierski
Staff Writer

SOUTH HADLEY – When it comes to COVID-19, South Hadley's positive case count is escalating. Emergency Management/Health Director Sharon Hart reported a massive spike

during the Nov. 10 meeting of the Selectboard.

"Cases are going up; absolutely going up," said Hart. "From last week, we're up 16 confirmed cases, 11 contacts, two probable and two more suspect. We also had one death; it was not related to a long-term

care facility either."

Since the pandemic reached western Massachusetts in March, South Hadley has reported 252 confirmed cases of the novel coronavirus and 253 contact cases. Twenty-six residents have succumbed to the virus.

Surging case counts are being

observed across the state. Last week, Gov. Charlie Baker and the Dept. of Public Health implemented several new protocols, including a stay-at-home advisory from 10 p.m. until 5 a.m.

Please see **COVID**, page 4

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MENU

Selectboard prepares its search for new Town Administrator

By Dalton Zbierski
Staff Writer

SOUTH HADLEY – Town Administrator Michael Sullivan is set to leave Town Hall in the not-so-distant future. His retirement is slated for June 30, 2021, with no successor in line.

On Nov. 10, the Selectboard spent nearly 40 minutes discussing how the town should go about finding Sullivan's replacement. Board members did not all agree on how the town should proceed, but unanimously approved the hiring of Community Paradigm Associates, LLC, a consulting firm that will aid in the search.

"They seem to be the leader in Massachusetts and maybe even other communities in other states as far as doing this type of work. It looks like they've done about 90 different communities in Massachusetts for various positions. Personally, I am really

impressed with the research and the community profiles that they do," said Selectboard member Chris Geraghty.

A subcommittee consisting of Geraghty and Selectboard Vice Chair Sarah Etelman communicated with multiple firms before recommending Community Paradigm to the board. The Selectboard accepted the recommendation but coming to terms on a timetable for the search proved to be more difficult.

[Community Paradigm] recommended doing a full on kickstart of this process in January, which would allow us to go through the whole process around the same timeframe that Mike is retiring," said Geraghty.

Etelman added that the town should wait until January to form a screening committee, consisting of both town officials and community members, to interview candidates for the position. Selectboard Chair Jeff Cyr

expressed his desire to begin the process at once.

"I think we really need to get going. I think we need to have that screening committee in place by January," said Cyr. "Our community knows this is coming. I've been getting a lot of questions about where we are in the process and what the timeline is. From a transparency perspective, we should definitely get moving on this. I think that's what our constituents expect from us."

Etelman responded that forming a screening committee immediately would be counterproductive. She urged the board to follow the advice of the firm and hold off on the task until the new calendar year.

"We asked the question of Community Paradigm of what their suggestion is. We're hiring them and paying them the money to be the experts and tell us what the best timing is on this

because I don't know and I seriously doubt any of you have the answer on when is the best time to hire a Town Administrator. Their answer was to wait until January," said Etelman.

Concerning the establishment of a screening committee, Cyr remained adamant that the board should "consider advertising for interested parties immediately."

He added that it took the school district approximately nine months to identify the final three candidates for its open superintendent position.

Sullivan has offered to serve until his replacement is found, but if South Hadley wishes to honor the date that has been designated for his retirement, Cyr believes that the town must make strides in its effort to name a replacement.

Etelman remained entrenched in her stance. She stated that the town doesn't expect

to receive the resumes of candidates for at least another five months, which would leave the screening committee with little to do if it is formed in the coming weeks.

"Putting a screening committee in place before you've got anything for them to do leaves them hanging there," said Etelman. "The committee won't be activated to actually do anything until April. It's not going to take us that long to advertise, interview and get the search committee moving. I understand wanting to start now, but that just doesn't make sense."

Apart from putting forth an offer to contract Community Paradigm, no hard decisions were made on Tuesday evening, but more are expected in the near future.

Dalton Zbierski is a staff writer and can be reached at dz-bierski@turley.com.

First Veterans' Day after Soldiers' Home tragedy

By Dalton Zbierski
Staff Writer

HOLYOKE – November 11 was exceptionally difficult for the loved ones of the 76 veterans who died as a result of the Soldiers' Home tragedy.

On Veterans' Day, ceremonies all throughout the state were dedicated to the men who succumbed to COVID-19 at the Holyoke facility earlier this year.

Bennett Walsh, the former Superintendent of the Soldiers' Home, and Dr. David Clinton, the facility's former medical director, were arraigned on Nov. 5 and pled not guilty to 10 criminal neglect charges.

Their hearings were held during a remote session of Hampden Superior Court. If found guilty, Walsh, 50, and Clinton, 71, could spend decades in prison.

On a more uplifting note, local veterans are working to pick up the pieces and move forward in the wake of the tragedy. The Holyoke Soldiers' Home Coalition, formed in part to ensure that a similar event never unfolds, is lobbying for a much-needed addition to the building.

"We support the resolution to build a new and improved Soldiers' Home with better living conditions, as well as the adult daycare program that they've always wanted. We urge all citizens to pursue that and to contact their legislatures," said Brian Willette, Commander of the Massachusetts Military Order of the Purple Heart

and one of the region's leading veteran advocates.

Willette, a South Hadley resident, intends to ask the town of South Hadley and the Selectboard to "join in on the resolution."

Several designs for a possible addition are already in play. A primary objective of the project would be to add on single rooms for the veterans.

"The Soldiers' Home, unfortunately, in its current state, has been really deemed not suitable for people with the way that they put them into rooms with the overcrowding," said Willette. "This new add-on would be an improvement, a renovation and an addition. It would be in the same location. No one wants it to leave Holyoke, and it won't under this proposal."

Willette relayed that Gov. Charlie Baker has committed to the project but added that "we're seeing it through because we've heard that before."

It will take that kind of fight to properly honor those who lost their lives as a result of the outbreak. It's equally as important that supporters remain vigilant in the months and even years that are ahead, said Willette.

The Soldiers' Home primary building holds 247 beds for long term patients. The facility opened on April 27, 1952, and the coalition strives to keep in Holyoke for decades to come.

Conservation commission issues statement on social justice

Staff report

SOUTH HADLEY – On Oct. 29, the Conservation Commission issued the following statement.

To the South Hadley Community,

In June of this year, Christian Cooper, a Black science writer and bird watching enthusiast, was in Central Park birding when he was threatened by a white woman. Unfortunately, encounters such as these between people of color and White people are not uncommon. People of color often encounter unjustified criticism, suspicion, confrontation or worse, while accessing recreational outdoor spaces. Now more than ever, it is important that everyone has access to clean, safe, and inspiring wild and outdoor spaces. The South Hadley Conservation Commission explicitly supports the use of town-owned conservation areas as safe spaces for Black, Brown, Indigenous, and all people of color. Furthermore, the South Hadley Conservation Commission condemns racism and racist behav-

ior in the outdoor spaces that we manage and beyond. Our town is uniquely positioned along the Connecticut River and the Holyoke Mountain Range, offering extraordinary opportunities to connect people to nature. Our goal is to ensure that everyone, particularly people of color, feel welcome while pursuing their personal connection to nature. We acknowledge that this work is not solely that of the public communities that use these outdoor spaces, and as the Commission that manages these lands, we commit to actively working to increase the diversity of people that use and manage our conservation properties.

Take good care of each other,

The South Hadley Conservation Commission:

Bill DeLuca, Chair
James Canning, Vice-Chair
Bill Bacis
Steph Clymer
Tom Dennis
Neva Tolopko
Garth Schwellenbach
Mary Zawatski, Associate Commissioner

Meet the superintendent candidates

SOUTH HADLEY – For those interested in being part of the community sessions with each of the three candidates for South Hadley Schools superintendent.

There will be a session for each candidate held virtually, each link will be posted on the schools' website and on social media.

The first session will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 17 from 3 to 3:45 p.m.

The second will be Dr. Carole Learned-Miller on Wednesday, Nov. 18 from 10:30 to 11:15 a.m.

The third session will be Dr. Jahmal Mosely on Thursday, Nov. 19 from 3 to 3:45 p.m.

Correction

In the story, "Help South Hadley plant 500 trees," the contact number for the Conservation Commission was incorrectly. The correct number is 413-538-5017 x6123.

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Have Something to Share?

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Gaylord Memorial Library update

SOUTH HADLEY —Although the library building continues to be closed, the public is invited to visit the library online. See below for this month's updates and be sure to follow Gaylord Memorial Library on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/gaylordlibrary>) for upcoming news and events.

Make an alphabet book with Miss Janet – “A is for alphabet and also astronaut”

Miss Janet has prepared a project for children ages three to eight who would like to create their very own alphabet book in 2021. The library will provide all of the materials you and your child will need to explore a new letter each week, beginning with A in January and continuing to Z through June. Miss Janet will also be providing weekly video tutorials, so your child can follow along to create their own alphabet book pages.

Kits will be available for registered patrons to pick up each month beginning in December. Sign up soon at <https://www.eventkeeper.com/code/ekform.cfm?curOrg=SHADLEY&curID=473582>. Space is limited.

Sign up to Make an Alphabet Book with Miss Janet. Go to: <https://www.eventkeeper.com/code/ekform.cfm?curOrg=SHADLEY&curID=473582>

Upcycled book page gratitude garland

A make and take craft for teens and adults from the Gaylord Memorial Library.

<https://www.eventkeeper.com/code/ekform.cfm?curOrg=SHADLEY&curID=472881>

Since garland is such a simple and creative way to accent your home, the library is offering a new one this month.

In November, folks are making Upcycled Book Page Gratitude Garland. Each

DIY kit will contain:

- instructions,
- a template,
- discarded book pages,
- and yarn.

To complete each project, you will need scissors, a marker and either a glue stick or some tape.

Since the library is not yet open again to the public, the library are asking patrons to sign up for a kit on the library calendar at <https://www.eventkeeper.com/code/ekform.cfm?curOrg=SHADLEY&curID=465996> and select the day you'd like to pick it up. The library will be offering pickup windows on Thursdays and Fridays from Nov. 12 to 20 between 12 to 4:45 p.m. Kits will be placed inside the front door in our vestibule with your first name on them. If you would like a kit, but are not able to come to the library during the pickup window, please contact the library and staff will figure out a way to get it to you.

Get your upcycled book page gratitude garland kit at <https://www.eventkeeper.com/code/ekform.cfm?curOrg=SHADLEY&curID=472881>

Crafts for kids with Ms. Janet Makes...

Ms. Janet has been busy creating video projects of crafts you and your children can do at home! Check out her latest projects posted below and visit <https://gaylorldlibrary.org/youth-services/miss-janet-makes/> for the full list. Don't forget to share photos of your finished crafts!

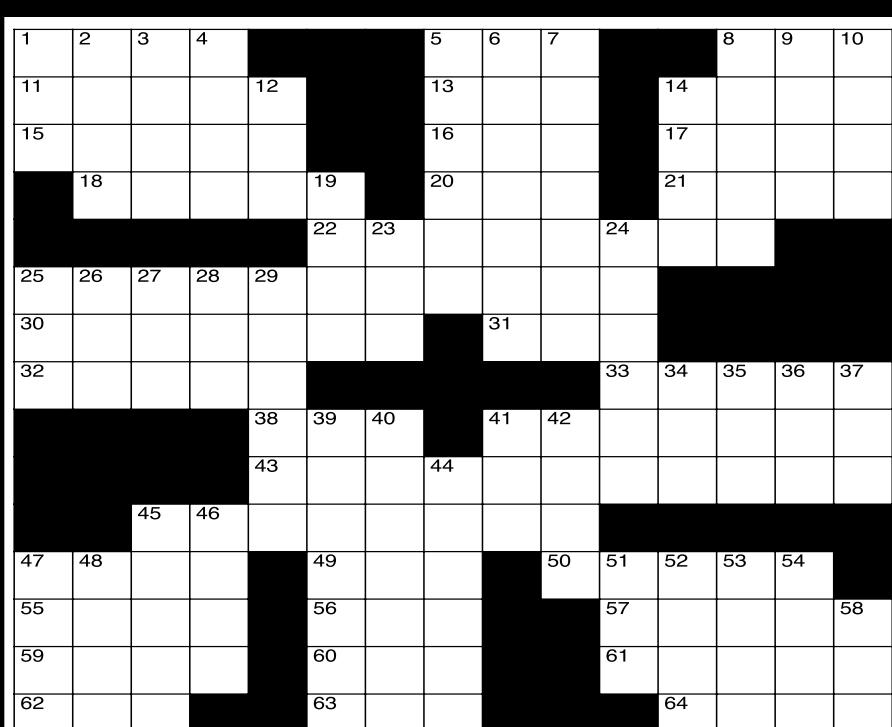
<https://vimeo.com/469044838>

Miss Janet makes...a black cat (<https://vimeo.com/469044838>)

Miss Janet makes...a ghost (<https://vimeo.com/473895755>)

Miss Janet makes...a pumpkin (<https://vimeo.com/471445085>)

Miss Janet makes...a sheep (<https://vimeo.com/469044838>)



CLUES ACROSS

1. Dutch word for “language”
5. Popular music style
8. Body part
11. Largely dry valleys
13. Brew
14. Ancient Greek sophist
15. Where rockers play
16. Human gene
17. One point east of northeast
18. Adversary
20. Small cask or barrel
21. About ear
22. Benign tumors
25. In a different way
30. One charged with a crime
31. Chinese principle underlying the universe
32. Long, narrow straps
33. Passover
38. Ottoman military commander
41. One who does not succeed
43. Data
45. 3D image
47. Whale ship captain
49. Japanese title
50. Made of wood
55. Yokel
56. Exercise system
57. Supreme being
59. Playing card with three spots
60. Hostelry
61. Spiritual leader
62. Single lens reflex
63. Time of the 90th meridian, used in the central U.S.
64. Thomas ___, American cartoonist

CLUES DOWN

1. Shuttered airline
2. Swiss river
3. Port city in Yemen
4. It can be straight
5. Tennis player's tool
6. Estranged
7. Garden archway
8. Assists
9. Grain crop
10. Millisecond
12. U.S. Founding Father
14. Small, deerlike buffalo
19. Easily manageable
23. Male parent
24. Nearsightedness
25. Patriotic women
26. Decorate a cake with frosting
27. __ fi (slang)
28. A joke rooted in wordplay
29. Attack violently
34. Keyboard key
35. __ juris: independent
36. Corporate executive (abbr.)
37. Adult female bird
39. Pertains to knowledge
40. Pashtoies
41. Prefixed title for
42. To be fired from a gun
44. A way to position
45. __ process: produces ammonia
46. Follow instructions
47. Humanistic discipline
48. Throw
51. Swiss river
52. American hate group
53. Actor Idris
54. Seizes
55. Actor Idris
56. Made of wood
57. Italian monks
58. To be fired from a gun
61. Throw
64. Swiss river

<http://meo.com/464359203>

View all Miss Janet makes craft videos (<https://gaylorldlibrary.org/youth-services/miss-janet-makes/>)

Online events happening at libraries throughout Massachusetts

<https://libraries.state.ma.us/calendar>

One amazing thing that has emerged as a result of the pandemic is the expansion of free virtual programming being created by libraries throughout Massachusetts. The best part is, you can attend any of them from the comfort of your own home! To learn more, check out the Massachusetts Libraries Online Events Calendar (<https://libraries.state.ma.us/calendar>).

More new books

Check them out! Although the building remains closed, you can still borrow these new titles. To do so, log on to C/W Mars (<https://gaylorld.cwmars.org/eg/opac/home>), search for the item you'd like to borrow and place a hold on your account. Be sure to select South Hadley Public Library as your pickup location or sign up for Homebound Delivery from the Gaylord Memorial Library.

If you need help, just give the library a call at 413-538-5047. Library staff are available by phone Thursday and Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., but you can call anytime to leave a message.

To see the newest titles being added to the South Hadley Public Library system, check the library out on Wowbrary at http://wowbrary.org/nu.aspx?fb&p=6649-507&fbclid=IwAR1EQ85_wq6y2NAPnvKBr7-qTxgRQT9ye_11bOJaUZcSZX-V4zcXBN-9vPw.

Homebound delivery

<https://gaylorldlibrary.org/homebound-delivery/>

Homebound Delivery is available to South Hadley residents who have health or transportation issues that keep them from the library. Library staff at Gaylord is thrilled to be able to deliver books, movies, CDs, etc. to those community members who are not able to visit the South Hadley Public Library to pick up holds. If you, or someone you know would like to learn more and sign up for homebound delivery, please visit <https://gaylorldlibrary.org/homebound-delivery/>

<http://gaylorldlibrary.org/homebound-delivery/>

Homebound Delivery FAQ (<https://gaylorldlibrary.org/homebound-delivery/>)

Lobby pickup now available at SHPL

The South Hadley Public Library lobby is currently open to the public Monday through Wednesday from 9:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Thursday and Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. for the pickup of library items. SHPL will resume Saturday hours, 9:30 to 1, beginning Nov. 7. Library patrons must wear a mask when entering the library. Visit <http://www.shadleylib.org/> to learn more.

Learn how to pick up your holds (<http://www.shadleylib.org/>)

For more information, please contact the library at 413-538-5047 or follow them on Facebook by going to <https://www.facebook.com/gaylorldlibrary>.

The Gaylord Memorial Library is located at 47 College Street, South Hadley, MA and is a branch of the South Hadley Public Library.

Hours: Thursday 1 to 8 p.m., Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. 12 p.m.

Festival of wreaths

SOUTH HADLEY — Morning Star Community Baptist Church of South Hadley, 11 N. Main Street in South Hadley Falls, welcomes the community to join in the Festival of Wreaths on three consecutive Saturdays from 12 to 4 p.m. on Nov. 28, Dec. 5 and Dec. 12. Face masks required.

Uniquely themed, hand crafted wreaths will be displayed through the building, allowing for social distancing while viewing. In exchange for an entrance fee of \$2, receive raffle tickets to enter to win your favorite wreath.

Winners will be announced on Dec. 12.

Outdoor craft activities will be available for children, weather permitting.

Funds are being raised to benefit the future opening of Big Ma's Soup Kitchen.

COVID from page 1

“I’m trying to make the message simple, and the message that I’m hearing is, ‘Stay at home between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m. Unless there is a really good reason for you to not be home, you should be home. You are not supposed to be outside your home during that period of time,” said Selectboard Vice Chair Sarah Etelman.

Residents are now required to wear face coverings in public places both indoors and outdoors. Individuals who socially distance inside of restaurants and gyms are still permitted to remove their masks.

Additionally, members of the public can no longer enter businesses after 9:30 p.m. Indoor gatherings at private residences cannot eclipse 10 persons, and outdoor gatherings are limited to 25 people.

South Hadley Town Administrator Mike Sullivan implored residents to follow the new orders, clarifying that they are not punitive measures.

“These are all attempts to try to curve the virus. These are practical guidelines,” said Sullivan, noting that South Hadley is on pace to again be designated as a high-risk community by the DPH.

“It was predicted that South Hadley’s numbers would go up. The citizens of South Hadley have done a really good job, but we’ve been surrounded the past couple weeks by a sea of red, and it looks like we’ll be going into the red,” said Sullivan.

South Hadley recently purchased five new digital messaging boards, which will be placed throughout the town to promote compliance. The equipment was acquired using funding that the town received as part of the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act.

CARES Act money has also been used to buy equipment for South Hadley students and iPads for seniors in town.

Hart divulged that employers are now able to request documentation from employees who claim that they have a medical exception that prevents them from wearing a face covering. Schools can ask the same of students.

“Businesses cannot request documentation from customers, but they can deny entry to someone who refuses to wear a facemask,” Hart continued. “It used to be that they could deny access as long as they could accommodate them some other way. I’m not sure that still holds.”

Etelman made it clear that exceptions to wearing a face covering are rare.

“There will be exceptions, but the message I prefer we communicate is that this is what we’re supposed to be doing. If you have an exception, you should know about your own exception,” she said.

Moving forward, the Selectboard remains optimistic that South Hadley’s percentage of positive tests will improve all while it prepares for the worst. Sullivan made it clear that individuals will not be arrested for violating protocols, but by risking their health, they may a greater price.

“We will not be sending patrols out to look for gatherings of 11 on Thanksgiving,” he said. “We just want to let people know that we’re not trying to do anything that is out of the ordinary. We’re trying to follow the state guidelines to keep people healthy and safe.”

For more information about South Hadley’s COVID-19 count, visit <https://www.southhadley.org/1026/COVID-19-RESPONSE>.

Dakin Humane Society announces honorees for 2020 Humane Awards

SPRINGFIELD – Dakin Humane Society honored eight people at the 2020 Humane Awards, which were part of the organization's online Barks & Brews virtual event on Sunday, October 4, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.

The Humane Awards were originally created by Dakin in 2011 and were comprised of multiple community-based award categories, as well as a special philanthropic designation, for individuals making a positive difference in the lives of animals and people. The honorees typically represent all ages and walks of life and demonstrate their commitment and concern for animals through their life and work. The awards honor members of the community who share Dakin's belief that the way people treat animals reflects the community's health.

The winners of the 2020 Humane Awards are:

Liz Collins - The Richard and Nathalie Woodbury Philanthropy Award. This award recognizes people who secure Dakin's future by sharing time, talent and financial resources to improve the lives of animals and the people who love them. Collins, a Springfield resident, has been an outspoken advocate for animals for several years. She was honored for her incredible work serving as the Secretary of the Board of Directors, volunteering as a greeter at Dakin's Springfield location, and helping with the Diamonds in the Ruff Thrift Shoppe.

Honorary Mention - Marianne and Jim Gambaro

The Gambaros not only serve

as active and dedicated volunteers by helping in Dakin's kitten intensive care unit, but recently assisted with Dakin's Curbside Pet Food Aid Program event. They are committee members who are vested in Dakin's future with a deep commitment to animals that goes well beyond their generosity and extends into our community as ambassadors and role models. The Gambaros live in Belchertown.

Ryker Bauer - The Youth Award. This award honors a hero, 16 or younger, who displays extraordinary care and compassion in making a difference in the lives of animals, and making the world a better place. Bauer, of Hinsdale, NH, is being honored for his innovative project Pawesome Box Adventure. He fills boxes with blankets, treats and toys and delivers them to over 100 different animal organizations in New Hampshire, Vermont and Massachusetts. He also volunteers his time collecting trash in his community to help keep both wild and companion animals safe.

Honorary Mention - Isabella Parsons. Parsons was saluted for her lifetime love of animals, as well as her volunteer duties on behalf of places like Mutt Rescue and Second Chance. She also makes homemade toys or treats to deliver to shelters. She lives with her family in South Hadley.

Meg Delaney - The Frances M. Wells Award. This award, named for the Greenfield Animal Shelter's benefactor, is given to individuals recognized for notable contributions

to the health and welfare of animals. Delaney, a Springfield resident, has been a veterinary technician at Dakin Humane Society for seven years and was cited for her selfless compassion and her dedication to the care and rescue of animals, particularly vulnerable neonatal kittens. She often brings at-risk kittens into her home to provide foster care and has created her own social media pages to advocate for them.

Honorary Mention - Kelly Doktor. Doktor, of Westfield, volunteers for several organizations including the Yankee Golden Retriever Rescue, Safe Haven Humane Society for Cats and the Appalachian Wildlife Refuge. She is a constant advocate for animals and, as a teacher, encourages her second-grade classroom to help animals too - with supply drives and other fun school projects.

Allison Strong - The Champion Award. This award honors a public servant who faithfully served and made life better for tens of thousands of animals and people in western Massachusetts. Strong was commended for her work, both as an animal control officer and veterinary technician. She is known to be compassionate in the toughest of circumstances, and to provide guidance for the proper care of animals. Strong, who resides in Agawam, embodies the Dakin belief that people are good and will make good decisions for animals when they are treated with kindness and understanding.

Please see **DAKIN**, page 12



Rayah Marie Bassett

October 21, 2020

Parents: Sarah Benoit and Zachary Bassett, South Hadley
Grandparents: Sharleen and Michael Roman, South Hadley
Gail and David Bassett, Ware

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Birthdate: _____

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Parents' Town of Residence: _____

Grandparents' Names & Town of Residence: _____

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Deadline for photos and forms is Friday, December 4, 2020



Photos submitted by Brian Willette

Massachusetts Military Order of the Purple Heart Commander Brian Willette arrived at the senior center on Tuesday to thank fellow veterans as part of a curbside pickup meal program.

curred on Nov. 10 at the St. Theresa's Parish on E. Parkview Dr., the temporary home of the South Hadley Council on Aging. Veterans participating in the senior center's curbside meal pickup program were honored all without having to leave their vehicles.

"It was quite moving. A number of them were brought to tears as they drove past us. They were not expecting what they were going to see and hear. It means a lot to them, and we're honored to be able to do it," said Willette.

Numerous local veterans' agencies contributed to and attended the COA celebration. Slater was proud to join in on the patriotic display.

"We handed out pre-boxed breakfasts to 37 veterans," said Slater. "They appreciated that people

are still out there making important things like Veterans' Day happen. Things are still being done in remembrance instead of just letting it go by without worrying about it."

Both Slater and Willette praised the region's patriotism, which is prominent all year and not just on holidays. Even in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, Veterans' Day in South Hadley was well-observed.

"We know how fortunate we are because there are places where these things are not going on. Here in western Mass, since I've been involved and before my time, it's part of our culture. We're not going to let any event go unanswered or unattended," said Willette.

Dalton Zbierski is a staff writer and can be reached at dzbierski@turley.com.

"A lot of things are given little to no notice, and for little to no notice, it was a great turnout and it was a beautiful day," said Willette. "The veterans felt the appreciation of the community, and it was very heartwarming to see so many of our youths come out as well."

The outdoor gathering was permissible, as it did not exceed 50 people, and all in attendance wore masks and kept their distance.

Another uplifting initiative oc-

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Opinion

GUEST COLUMN

It takes a few months to conceive a healthy orchard

I have really enjoyed the apple harvest this year! While my trees are too young to be good bearers, it's been fun eating lots of different apples from the local orchard. My favorite are the antique varieties. This year I had the good fortune to be able to purchase both Roxbury and Golden Russet, Winter Banana, Caville Blanc and Baldwin. While I set out with a plan to buy enough to get me through the winter, I typically eat them in record speed and schedule a return trip to the orchard just a few weeks later. These old apples bring me so much enjoyment, I really need to consider adding a few more trees to my home orchard.

Perhaps eating your favorite varieties have inspired you, also. If so, this is the column for you. The key to successful home apple orchards appears to be forethought. Purchasing fruit trees should not be an "impulse buy." Ask yourself the right questions now and you will be in good shape once spring planting rolls around.

What variety do you want to grow? While I like heirlooms, you may prefer some of the newer, disease-resistant types. Or maybe you want apples that span the seasons, say Paula Red to start, Honey Crisp for mid-stream and Gold Rush to finish it off. Perhaps you'd like to make cider or bake lots of pies. There are apples that are specifically suited to how you'd like to use them.

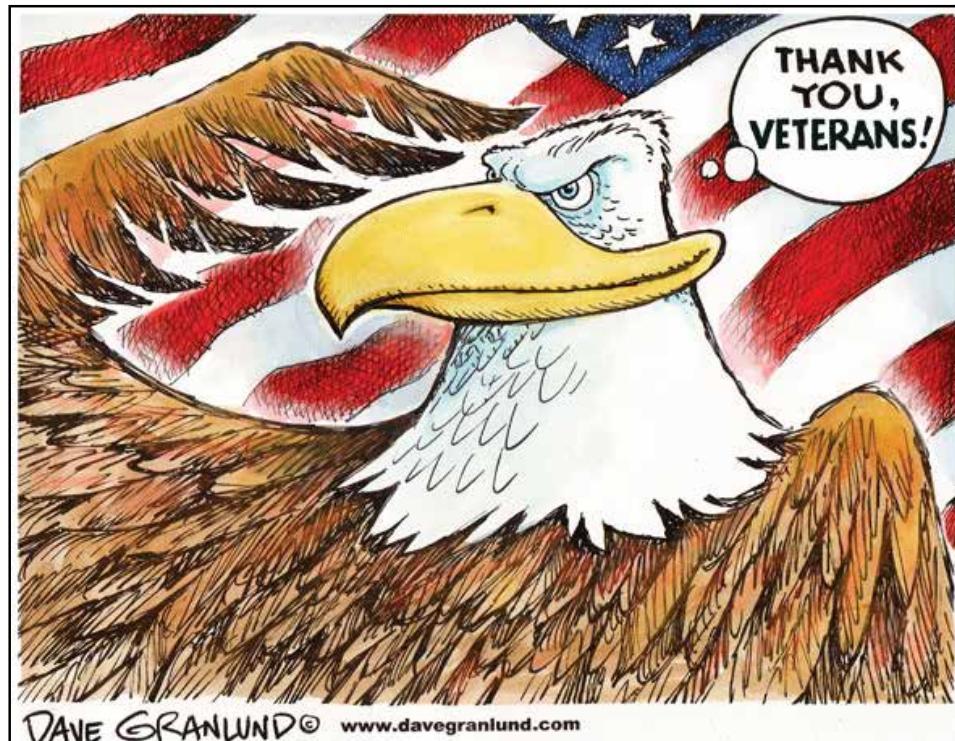
My favorite place to buy trees by mail order is through Fedco in Maine. Call 207-426-0090 or log on to fedcoseeds.com/trees to request their "Trees" catalog. You will glean lots of useful information within the pages of this catalog. I am thrilled to know that they are grafted on site and accustomed to our climate.

How tall to you want your trees to get? Apple trees are available in dwarf, semi-dwarf and standard size. Their ultimate size is determined mostly by the rootstock onto which the named variety is grafted. Each has their pros and cons. Dwarf trees can generally be maintained without a ladder. They come into bearing sooner but because of their size produce fewer apples than larger trees. Staking and irrigation are often necessary, because of limited root systems. They can be planted relatively close together (six to eight feet) and are generally short-lived. Semi-dwarf trees are midsized, bear well and are most productive for two or three decades. They are usually spaced 12 to 14 feet apart from one another. Standard, or full-size trees are those beauties of our grandparents' era. Extremely hardy, many are still around and might even be bearing fruit! Plan on 18 feet or more between trees, with a mature height of 15 to 20 tall!

Where will you plant them? With the size of the trees determined, you can now figure out how many will fit in the space designated for your home orchard. The best spot is one that receives six to eight hours of full sun per day. Deep, well-drained soil is ideal; never plant where you know the water table is high. In my opinion, a few trees positioned close to the



Roberta McQuaid



DAVE GRANLUND © www.davegranlund.com

A QUOTE

of NOTE

"It's extremely important to thank our veterans; not only for what they did when they served their country in uniform but what they're still doing even today. We can't let them go to the wayside and be forgotten. We can't forget all the contributions that they've made while serving our country."

said Michael Slater in the story "Honoring their sacrifice."

OPINION PAGE/ LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the Editor have a maximum of 350 words. We require writers to include their name, address and phone number in order for our office to authenticate authorship prior to publication. Addresses and phone numbers are not published.

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We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions. Libelous, unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks or defamation of character are not allowed. Deadline for submissions is Wednesday at noon.

Please email (preferred) letters to townreminder@turley.com. Mailed letters can be sent to Town Reminder, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Uniting together

Now that the 2020 election is over, most Americans thoughts are about moving ahead to a better future, that is more positive, more open and with honest communications from our elected officials at every level of our government.

This past year has been one of uneasiness and challenge for most Americans, dealing with the pandemic, the election, and concern for our families, friends, and our countries future. Our country was built on sacrifice, trust, and being united as one nation joined together, not divided.

I do believe in a leadership that no lon-

ger divides the people of our great country by sides and for reasons that are wrong and confusing to most of us. There should never be a leadership that encourages divisiveness, we are stronger than any other country when we unite together.

It's time to heal and move forward America, we have challenges ahead of us, that we must face together as one nation working together towards what's best for our country and all Americans.

Sincerely,

Dennis Golas

SOCIAL SECURITY MATTERS

Guidance needed on Social Security and Medicare

By Russell Gloor
Guest columnist

Dear Rusty: I am turning 67 in October and as of today, I am still employed full time. I really do not plan on retiring unless I am forced to. But how do I arrange my Social Security and Medical care stuff. It seems this subject is like a color, and everyone has a different color they like. Is there any way for me to figure this out with help or on my own? I could really use some guidance. Signed: Perplexed

Dear Perplexed: Okay, let's look at your Social Security and your Medicare separately, because they're two totally independent programs.

You do not need to do anything about Social Security until you are ready to start collecting your benefits. Since you have already reached your full retirement age (FRA) of 66, you are now earning Delayed Retirement Credits at the rate of .667% per month. That means that your benefit in October, if you were to claim it then, would be 8% more than it would have been at age 66. If you continue to delay applying for Social Security benefits, you will continue to earn those DRCs up to age 70, when your benefit amount would be 32% more than it would have been at your FRA. The choice of when to claim your Social Security is yours to make, considering your need for the money, your health and your expected longevity. The longer you wait (up to 70), the more your benefit will be, and if you expect at least average longevity (about 84 for a man your current age) then you'll get both a higher benefit amount and more in cumu-

lative lifetime benefits by waiting to claim your Social Security.

As for Medicare, if you are now covered by your employer's "creditable" healthcare plan, you can delay enrolling in Medicare until your current employer coverage ends (when you stop working). "Creditable" is a group plan with more than 20 participants. If you now have "creditable" employer healthcare coverage (including drug coverage) you won't be liable for a Late Enrollment Penalty for enrolling in Medicare (or a drug plan) later. If you are still working and know your creditable employer coverage will end soon, you can enroll for Medicare benefits to start coincident with the end of your employer coverage. Or, after you stop working, you can enroll in Medicare during a "Special Enrollment Period" (or "SEP" for those transitioning from employer coverage to Medicare coverage). Your SEP for Medicare will last for eight months after you stop working, but you only have 63 days after the end of your employer drug coverage to enroll in a Part D prescription drug plan.

The bottom line is this – you don't need to enroll in Medicare until your creditable employer healthcare coverage ends. And you don't need to apply for Social Security until you wish to start receiving benefits (just don't wait beyond 70).

One final point because you were born in 1953: if you are now married and your wife is already collecting her Social Security, you can file a "restricted application for spouse benefits only" and collect only a spouse benefit from your wife, while still allowing your own benefit to continue to grow until you are

TOWN Reminder

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PATRICK H. TURLEY
CEO

KEITH TURLEY
President
EDITOR
Melina Bourdeau
townreminder@turley.com

STAFF WRITER
Dalton Zbierski
dzbierski@turley.com

ADVERTISING SALES
Maureen McGarrett Hall
mmcgarratt@turley.com

SPORTS EDITOR
Greg Scibelli
sports@turley.com

SOCIAL MEDIA
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'Coming to America' reading series at the Jones Library

Staff report

AMHERST — Explore the immigrant experience and learn more about Yiddish literature in this online book discussion series at the Jones Library this fall, being brought to the community via Zoom, thanks to the Yiddish Book Center's "Coming to America" reading groups for public libraries program.

Linda Wentworth, head of collections at the Jones Library, will facilitate this book discussion series, using these books to explore the ways in which immigrants change the country, and the ways in which the country changes those who immigrate here. Through these discussions, participants will explore the range of immigrant experiences and how these experiences are portrayed in literature.

To register for this discussion series, email programs@joneslibrary.org. The book discussions will be held online via

Please see JONES, page 8



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Neighbor News



Sewing tag sale by appointment

Photo by Melina Bourdeau

Last weekend Belchertown United Church of Christ hosted its annual quilt show and sale. Now people who are interested can make an appointment to shop the remaining sewing tag sale.

BELCHERTOWN — Belchertown United Church of Christ quilt show and sale last weekend included a sewing tag sale.

In the interest of those who sew, knit, or quilt who did not wish to attend due to possible COVID-19 ex-

posure, the church is offering up an opportunity to shop remains of the sewing tag sale by appointment.

If you need sewing supplies to stay busy this winter please give Jane Crutchfield a call at 413-283-4456 or email ahc60@hotmail.com.

TITANS TOGETHER

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► Granby

Granby sees almost 25% energy reduction

By Melina Bourdeau
Staff Writer

GRANBY — The selectboard discussed its annual Green Community report which is being sent to the state, noting a 20% reduction in energy use.

In 2011, Granby applied for a Green Community Designation, and got its first award in 2014, explained Selectboard member and Energy Committee Chair Jay Joyce in the selectboard meeting on Nov. 2.

In 2015 two people approached Joyce to create a committee to maintain the designation "because it hadn't been kept up with." When the committee looked at the energy saved in 2015, Granby had used seven percent more energy than its baseline year of 2011.

"The goal was to have a 20% reduction," Joyce said. "As of last year, we had got it down to an 18.3% percent reduction in energy over the time period."

He said weather normalization is updated once a week by Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources.

"This year there's been discussion of how they're going to change the report for next year. One of the big things is, for next year, you're going to have to report of all your fossil fuels saving for using electrical charges and vehicles. Particularly now since you can buy electrical vehicles with green community money," Joyce said.

He added that the DOER is anticipating every municipality is going to have somewhere between a three to five percent drop in energy usage due to COVID-19.

"If you look at the 18.3% we had last year which is a firm number you would expect that number to go up three to five percent this year because of COVID-19. If you save more energy than that, then that's your energy saving," he said.

Looking at the week's weatherization on Nov. 2, Granby saved 27.4%.

"If you use their numbers with their forecasting of somewhere between a three and five percent savings because of COVID-19 and subtract that from your 27.4 %, Granby would have met the goal of 20% or more savings and be qualified for more incentives at the next higher lev-

el," Joyce said. He added that would also be contingent upon having 20% of more savings next year as well.

The buildings which use the most energy at Granby Junior/Senior High School, the safety complex and the East Meadow School.

"We're expecting a possible spike... because a lot of this equipment being used today to get the proper air exchange may not be energy saver certified, so it may be using more energy," Joyce said. "What they told us to do for next year is make a note in the narrative about that."

Joyce mentioned he does not intend on running for reelection for the selectboard next year and plans on stepping down from his roles on committees. He added that two other members of the Energy Committee also intend on stepping down.

In 2018 when the town used Green Communities funding for the dog pound — with a new roof, lighting and other repairs, Joyce said.

Energy Committee member Lillian Camus presented on energy reductions measures planned for this year, which

need to be completed by the end of 2020.

There are four items that need to be completed — the heat pump at the highway department, the lighting at the high school and the hot water boiler controls at the high school and variable speed pumps.

"All of that work has to be completed, inspected by Mass. DOER and then we have to do all of the paperwork we give it to (Chris Martin) he gets the money from Mass. DOER and the invoices for all of the work. He pays them all," he said. "All that has to be done before you apply for another grant."

He said he didn't believe the projects would be completed by the end of the calendar year, due to the pandemic.

"We finalized the boiler stuff or the high school which is going to be a little bit different than planned," Joyce said, adding it will be installed by Energy Source. "Next week, we're probably going to start the highway dept. with the heat pump. We're tentatively scheduled to start the lights at the high school for (Nov. 9) and as soon as the stuff for the boilers come in."

SSI from page 6

70. But this option is only available to you because you were born before Jan. 2, 1954.

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Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

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JONES from page 7

Zoom. Links for the discussions will be sent to registered participants the day before the discussion. Books are available to be signed out to participants in this discussion series, thanks to support from the Yiddish Book Center and the "Coming to America" program. There are limited spaces available, and registration in advance is required.

Arrangements will be made for contactless book pick-up at the Jones Library after registration.

The discussion schedule is as follows:

• Tuesday, Nov. 17 at 7 p.m. – Enemies, a Love Story by Isaac Bashevis Singer

This book, written by a Nobel Prize-winning author, explores the life of Herman Broder, a World War II survivor, and his three wives as Herman navigates a complicated and resigned life in Yiddish New York City. This discussion will begin with Professor Ilan Stavans, from Amherst College, presenting an introduction to Isaac Bashevis Singer.

• Tuesday, Dec. 15 at 7 p.m. – A Jewish Refugee in New York by Kadya Molodovsky

Molodovsky, one of the most prolific writers of Yiddish literature in the 20th century, brings us the story of Rivke

Zilberg, who flees Poland after the Nazi invasion and uses her journal to describe the challenges of daily life in New York.

• Tuesday, Jan. 19, 2021 at 7 p.m. – The Leavers by Lisa Ko

To explore the Chinese immigrant experience and reflect on the experiences of this large immigrant group in our community, this prize-winning novel takes us into the life of Deming Guo, whose immigrant mother disappears without a trace.

The Jones Library is excited to offer this unique book group discussion opportunity, which has been made possible due to a grant from the Yiddish Book Center. The Yiddish Book Center's "Coming to America" Reading Groups for Public Libraries is a program in which librarians arrange reading groups to discuss three books of Yiddish literature in translation, and one book related to an immigrant community served by their library.

For more information, visit the event webpage at <https://www.joneslibrary.org/comingtoamerica> or contact Janet Ryan at janet@joneslibrary.org.

This series is made possible due to support from the Yiddish Book Center. The Yiddish Book Center's "Coming to America" Reading Groups for Public Libraries is made possible by a gift from Sharon Karmazin.

GARDEN from page 6

house will be maintained better because they are in eyeshot as compared to those placed strategically out in the back-forty. They tend to nag you as you walk by: "Time to prune!" "Why are those leaves curled?" What is that orange spot?" You get the idea.

Is my soil any good? Fall is a great time to take a soil test. First, slice a six inch core of soil from your intended orchard with a stainless steel trowel. Remove surface debris and air dry. Repeat several times and mix the cores together. Then, measure out a cup of soil to send to the lab. If the locations you plan on planting your apple trees vary considerably, test them separately. Official directions and an order form are found on <http://soiltest.umass.edu>. The standard soil test is \$20. Mention on the test that you are growing apples and pH and fertilizer recommendations will be specific to that crop.

You can do something this fall to make planting easier next spring. Mark out where your trees are to go and dump a generous amount of compost on top of the grass in a circle three feet in diameter. This will start to break down the sod and get the microbes in the soil working.

With the planning part behind you, it will be a lot of fun to await the arrival of your trees come springtime.

Granby Preservation Society festival of baskets



Courtesy photo

This is one basket of 60 available in the Granby Preservation Society festival of baskets that members of the community can enter to win.

GRANBY – Due to the COVID-19 health crisis Granby Preservation Society is unable to host its annual festival of trees in Kellogg Hall.

Thanks to the sponsors, local businesses and families this year the Granby Preservation Society is hosting a festival of baskets. There are 60 themed baskets to raffle off.

As of Monday, people can visit www.granbypreservationsociety.org to view each basket, a description of its contents and to purchase raffle tickets and choose the basket(s) they would like to enter for a chance to win.

For those unable to order online or to make an appointment for a private viewing of the baskets contact Cindy Gaspari at 413-204-4151 or cedg14@gmail.com.

In the Classroom

Community television posts High School in-person walkthrough video

By Melina Bourdeau
Staff report

SOUTH HADLEY – South Hadley High School interim Principal Liz Wood and Assistant Principal Patrick Lemieux gave a presentation on what students can expect going into in-person learning.

The video is posted onto South Hadley Community Television's Vimeo channel at <https://vimeo.com/channels/shctv15/476407941>.

Beginning with arrival to school and covering mask breaks as well as lunch, Wood and Lemieux do a walk-through of the school, show-

ing the changes students, faculty and staff will face.

Students will "enter through the front door and upon entry each student will be checked to make sure they are properly wearing an ear loop mask and they will also be required to hand sanitize at the hand sanitizing stations," Wood said.

When students enter the school prior to class, they will be required to stand in a main area six feet apart, according to Wood. No groups will be allowed.

The campus will be closed and no visitors will be allowed and students will remain on campus for

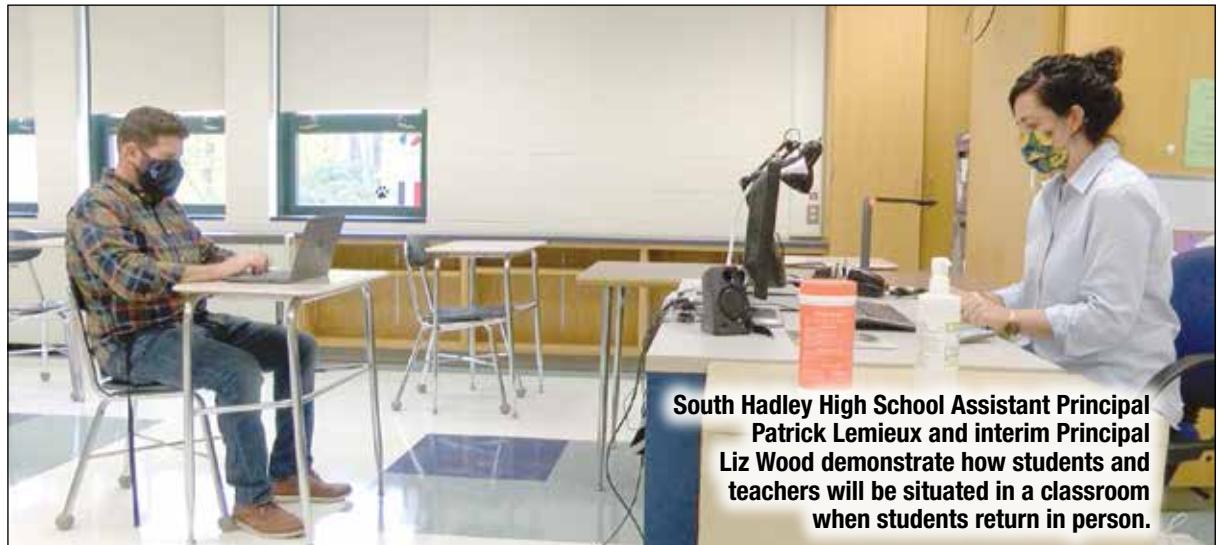
lunch and direct study periods.

Main Office

Lemieux explained changes to the Main Office.

"Students are not allowed to enter through the main office door it is no longer a cut through for the 300 hallway," he said. "If you have a note or something you need to give to the Main Office secretaries please do so using the drop box in the Main Office vestibule. Student messages and pick up will also be in the Main Office entry way. If you

Please see **IN-PERSON**, page 12



South Hadley High School Assistant Principal Patrick Lemieux and interim Principal Liz Wood demonstrate how students and teachers will be situated in a classroom when students return in person.

Is It Time for Assisted Living? Virtual Event

Answering Common Questions Including:

What happens when dad runs out of money?



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How can we afford it?

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How can we get mom out of isolation?

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New formula releases schools from 'red' status

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

REGION — Fall sports will conclude over the course of this week and next week. Many schools, like Agawam, built a schedule that had teams finishing in the first or early in the second week of November in order to build in time to make up games before the Nov. 20 cutoff date.

Thanks to a revised formula by the state government, however, further shutdowns of most high school sports should be avoided.

Unfortunately, a few schools called it quits for the season before the formulas were re-done.

Last Friday, a revised formula to gauge "high-risk" communities for the spread of coronavirus was released. The result was every community outside of Springfield being removed from high-risk or "red" status.

A number of school temporarily shut down sports due to high-risk status, including Monson, Palmer, Amherst, Granby, Chicopee, and Minnechaug.

Minnechaug and Palmer were nearly shut down for extended periods of times, but the new metrics allowed the schools to both return to action earlier this week.

Unfortunately for a couple of schools, the new numbers came back too late.

Granby, which shut down its fall sports for a minimum of two weeks on Oct. 29, made the decision at the end of last week to discontinue the fall season.

Holyoke, which had to end its fall season on Oct. 22 after three weeks in the "red," called off its season once it had been in the red for three weeks.

Chicopee and Minnechaug had to postpone a number of games at the end of last week. As a result of the revised formulas, those games have the opportunity to be made up.

West Springfield, which plays in a bubble with Agawam, can also resume sports if it wishes.

Agawam High School Athletic Director David Stratton said a number of schools that have lost games due to COVID-related shutdowns. He said in situations like Holyoke where they have shut down their sports, teams in their

Please see **FORMULA**,
page 11



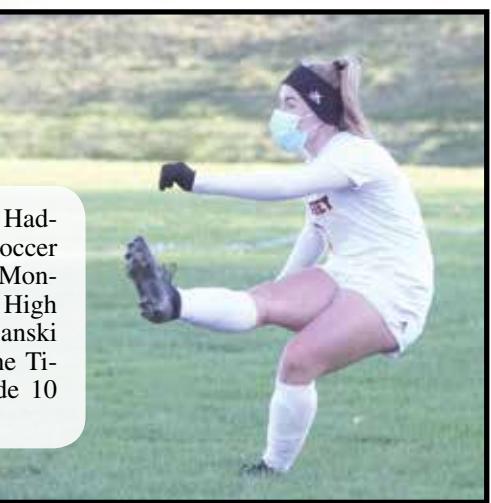
Anna Evans heads off a Monson player to take the ball.



Teagan Gawron looks for a path to the goal.



Siobhan McAllister takes a kick-in for the Tigers.



Jaidan Luis socks a kick away.



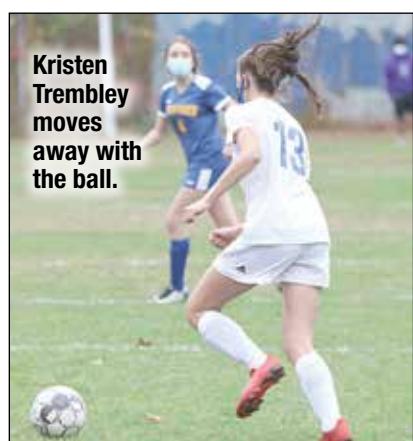
Emma Sanford takes a free kick for South Hadley.



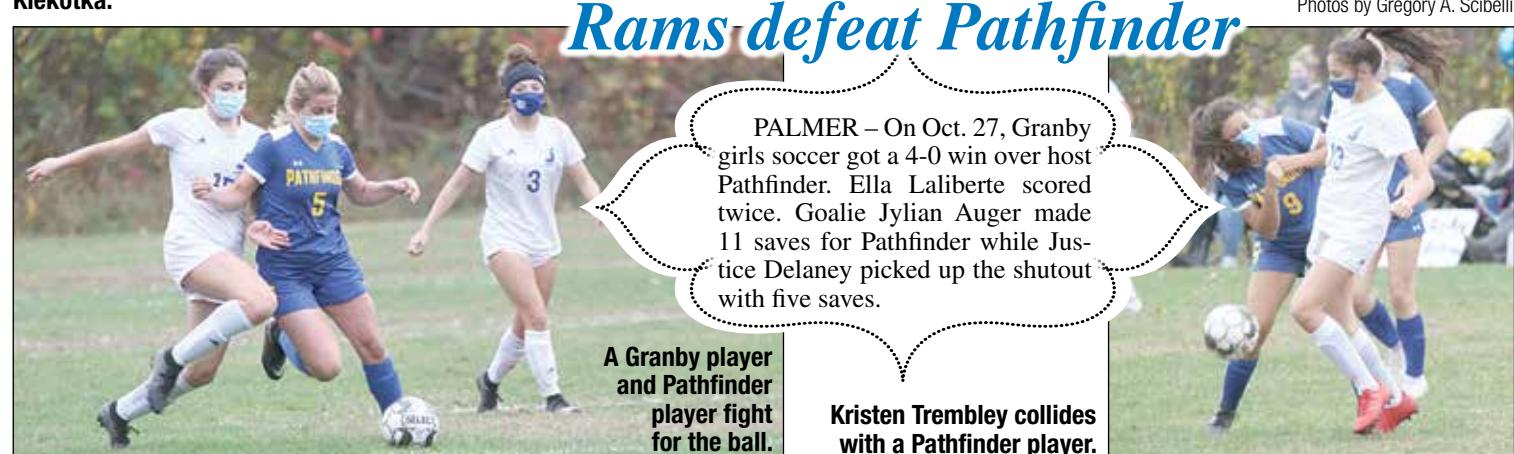
Sienna Hill looks for teammate Arianna Klekotka.



Dana Chateauneuf tries to break away from the Pathfinder midfield.



Kristen Trembley moves away with the ball.



Rams defeat Pathfinder

PALMER — On Oct. 27, Granby girls soccer got a 4-0 win over host Pathfinder. Ella Laliberte scored twice. Goalie Jylian Auger made 11 saves for Pathfinder while Justice Delaney picked up the shutout with five saves.

A Granby player and Pathfinder player fight for the ball.

Kristen Trembley collides with a Pathfinder player.

Photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

Tryouts announced for Pioneers

LUDLOW – WUP FC is excited to hold WINTER TRY-OUTS for the 2020-2021 season. Tryouts are for Boys and Girls of all age groups (2012 - 2002 birth years). An open house for younger ages can be scheduled upon request.

Developmental Academy: players born in 2013-2015

First Kick: players born in 2016

Tryouts will be held from Nov. 16 to Nov. 20 at Lusitano and Ana Dias Middle fields. There are various tryout times for age groups and more information can be found at www.westernunitedpioneers.com. This registration session will allow you to complete contact information, and sign up for participation. Please read through each page carefully to ensure that all information is provided accurately.

We want to create the safest environment for your player due to COVID19. Each player should bring water, a ball, shin guards, and wear a mask.

Turley Sports joins Instagram

Turley Publications sports department has recently joined Instagram. You can find our account by searching "turleysports." We will regularly feature samples of photos that you will see in our publications on a weekly basis. Please follow and share with your friends and loved ones. We will be featuring photos from all 11 of our sports sections in the coming weeks, but as always, you can see all the photos that appear by subscribing to your local paper or picking up a copy in your community.

FORMULA from page 10

bubble try to find other games.

"The goal for most sports like soccer, field hockey, or volleyball was to have at least 10 contests," said Stratton. "In most bubbles, you play everyone twice. But we would pick up a third game against a team in our bubble if we needed one to get to 10."

With COVID formulas changing, teams should be able to have enough time to finish up the fall season without much difficulty. When the fall season wraps up on Nov. 20, winter sports will be able to begin the following week.

Early indications show winter season can be played

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

REGION – Guidance issued by the Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs has opened a path for winter sports to be played.

Combined with the revised method in which towns and cities in Massachusetts will be measured for risk of COVID-19 transmission, there are indications that basketball and hockey as well as swimming and indoor track will be allowed to have limited competition.

Back in the summer, the sports of basketball, football, lacrosse, and hockey were listed as high-risk sports because of sus-

tained close contact that would likely result in COVID-19 transmission.

Soccer was also part of that designation. This caused summer basketball, soccer, and lacrosse leagues to be cancelled.

Soccer was eventually removed from the high risk designation and games were allowed to be played with modified rules during the high school season.

Basketball and hockey are still considered high-risk, but the EEA guidance allows for limited competition to be played. That limited competition will more than likely be the type of "bubble" play that fall sports were played under. The bubbles are geographic in nature, and have worked out rather well.

The Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association had to cancel the fall tournaments and has also moved to cancel winter tournaments, but the EEA guidance shows hope for a modified basketball seasons within the bubbles teams will play in.

With the winter season set to start at the end of the month, basically on time for a normal winter season, and set to go from December to Feb. 21, it is not yet known how many contests could be played during that period of time. Basketball and hockey seasons are typically 18-20 games, but the desire to limit contact could limit the number of contests allowed.

Also, due to the fact the sports

are played indoors, it is possible fans could be banned from most ice hockey arenas and school gymnasiums.

One sport that will only be allowed to practice and have zero competitions is wrestling. Wrestling is deemed to have too much close sustained contact to be allowed to have competitions between schools. It is unknown if wrestling will be moved to the "bubble" season like football, or if it will be cancelled altogether.

The MIAA and Department of Elementary and Secondary education are in the process of coming up with rule modifications for basketball and hockey, which will be coming in the next month.

Despite delayed season, T-Birds to support cancer cause

SPRINGFIELD – Today, the Springfield Thunderbirds announced they will be supporting Hockey Fights Cancer Month throughout the month of November, with an added assist by New Valley Bank who will be donating \$2,500 to the cause. Founded in 1998 by the National Hockey League and the National Hockey League Players' Association, Hockey Fights Cancer (HFC) unites the hockey community in support of cancer patients and their families.

Throughout the month, the Thunderbirds will collect names on social media from fans for people they "fight for." New Valley Bank & Trust has committed to donate \$5 for each submission received to the Thunderbirds' Foundation, for

the first 500 submissions. At the end of the month, the Thunderbirds' Foundation will make donations to the NHL's Hockey Fights Cancer charity, along with several local cancer-related organizations. In addition to the \$2,500 contribution from New Valley Bank, the Thunderbirds will also be collecting monetary donations on their foundation website, as well as holding a specialty game-worn jersey raffle from previous events.

"Hockey Fights Cancer has been an incredibly important cause for our organization and across the AHL and NHL. We are grateful to New Valley Bank to step up and support this cause with us. I can't wait to see all of the 'I Fight For' signs downtown this month, but also look

forward to a time where these donations and research can help lead to a cure for cancer," said Thunderbirds President Nathan Costa.

The Springfield Thunderbirds have remained engaged in the community despite the delay to the AHL season, which was recently pushed to February 5th, 2021. In a traditional season, the Thunderbirds would be recognizing Hockey Fights Cancer month by hosting a game dedicated to the cause, complete with signature Lavender-themed jerseys and a post-game auction to raise money for the campaign. In the absence of the game this year, the organization will be activating

Please see **T-BIRDS**, page 15

Help feature your student-athletes

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

The fall season is nearing its end and Turley Publications has been all over the action.

But with this unpredictable season there have been temporary or in some cases, permanent stoppages in play, and we still want to help feature your athletes, especially those who are seniors this year.

We continue to ask for help on this season in order to bring the best coverage we can possibly manage and fill our pages with names and color.

We know that fans will be limited to the home crowds, but that is where you all come in.

We have a limited number of staff to start the school year due to the pandemic, and while we strive to get to as many games as possible, we cannot get to everywhere.

If you are a parent, coach, or even player, and you have information or photographs to share, we definitely want to hear from you.

If you don't see one of our photographers at a game, please feel free to send your own action photos of games in order to bolster our coverage. If you are interested in regularly submitted photos, please do contact us.

Otherwise, we would love to hear from anyone who re-

ports scores, details, and any milestones that occur during this unprecedented season. Please be sure the information you provide us is accurate and check with coaches, if necessary, before submitting.

Additionally, with the various senior games that have been held already or are still waiting to be held, we welcome submitted photos from those events and information about graduating seniors who participated in Fall 1 sports.

We also encourage all coaches to submit their results and details as much as possible. Send any and all information and photos for inclusion to sports@turley.com.

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COLLEGE NOTES

University of New Hampshire's Dean's List for the Spring 2020

DURHAM, NH – The following students have been named to the Dean's List at the University of New Hampshire for the spring 2020 semester.

Mackenzie Pete of South Hadley for earning Honors. Pete is majoring in Psychology.

Sarah Fudger of South Hadley for earning High Honors. Fudger is majoring in BiomedSci:Med and VetSci.

Caitlin Murphy of South Hadley for earning Highest Honors. Murphy is majoring in Social Work.

Kayleigh Hynek of South Hadley for earning Highest Honors. Hynek is majoring in Social Work.

Students named to the Dean's List at the University of New Hampshire are students who have earned recognition through their superior scholastic performance during a semester enrolled in a full-time course load (12 or more graded credits). Highest honors are awarded to students who earn a semester grade point average of 3.85 or better out of a possible 4.0. Students with a 3.65 to 3.84 average are awarded high honors and students whose grade point average is 3.5 through 3.64 are awarded honors.

Cultural Council application period extended

SOUTH HADLEY – The South Hadley Cultural Council is pleased to announce that the application period for the 2021 grant cycle has been extended through Dec. 14, 2020.

The South Hadley Cultural Council welcomes applications from individuals and groups that promote the arts, humanities, and sciences through programs that benefit the citizens of South Hadley. They especially welcome applications for programs that bring art and culture to students in South Hadley Public Schools, as well as those accessible to people with disabilities: in accessible locations, and/or specifically geared towards making arts and culture more accessible.

This year, safety is also a high priority: the Cultural Council is actively seeking applications for events that can be conducted online or that otherwise take pandemic safety into account.

This year, because the pandemic has hit artists and performers especially hard, the South Hadley Cultural Council plans to be more flexible about its funding. Its usual practice is to fund no more than 50% of the total budget of any project; however, grants for the fiscal year 2021 cycle may fund more than 50%.

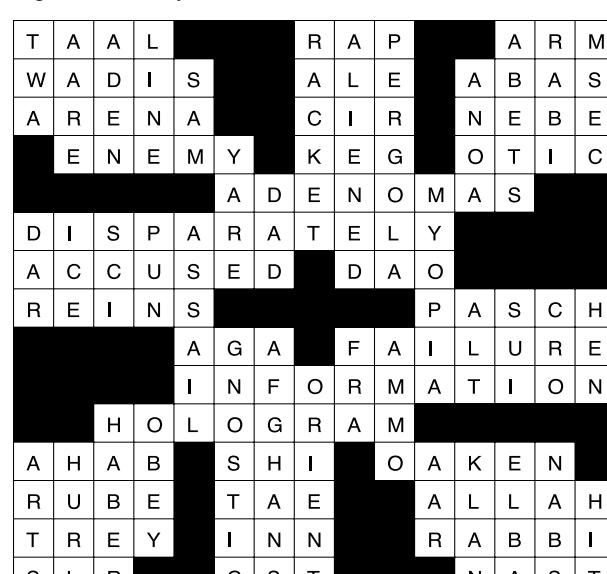
Applications should note the way the program benefits the citizens of South Hadley. They must also specify a confirmed venue, date and time (or timeframe) during the calendar year 2021, and other sources of financial support.

Some events funded by SHCC grants in the fiscal year 2020 have been postponed to 2021. The recipients of those grants may apply for SHCC grants for the fiscal year 2021 for different events from the ones that were postponed.

The South Hadley Cultural Council is part of a network of 329 Local Cultural Councils (LCCs) serving all 351 cities and towns in the Commonwealth. The LCC Program is the largest grassroots cultural funding network in the nation, supporting thousands of community-based projects in the arts, sciences and humanities every year. The state legislature provides an annual appropriation to the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, which then allocates funds to each community.

For more information, visit the South Hadley Cultural Council's website: <https://www.southhadley.org/385/Cultural-Council>

For the application, visit the Massachusetts Cultural Council's section for South Hadley: <http://mass-culture.org/south-hadley>.



HCC announces dean's list for spring 2020 semester

Each semester Holyoke Community College recognizes superior scholarship through the Dean's List. A student is placed on the Dean's List if their G.P.A. is 3.2 or higher. The students listed below have earned Dean's List honors for the Spring 2020 semester.

South Hadley:

Jayda Gabrielle Aponte, Jacob David Boisverre, Jocelynn Paige Bouyea, Abigail Rose Broyles, Cheyenne Montana Champagne, Julia Cloutier, Daniel Michael Conway, Jerid Kenneth Deprey, Alison Carol Descheneaux, Elissa K. Dingman, Carlos Alberto Elizondo Gomez, Nathan Daniel Emmonds, Jason Anthony Jagnarine, Victor Koskey, Matthew Marc LaJoie, Noah Robert Longpre, Samantha Lynes, Merissa Lynn McClain, Matthew John McLennan, Moira Caitlyn Mihalak, Corinne Marie Moskal, Zoe Elizabeth Moynihan, Zoe Noyes, Laila Pearl, Nicole Lynn Peltier, Marissa Lee Robinson, Katherine Sarah Rose, Jessica Sanchez, Carolyn Sicbaldi, Abigail Kelynge Tait, Kiara Koriya Taylor, Laura Louise Toniatti, Nicholas Tosoni, Dominick Micheal Valentine, Jennifer Lee Vieu, Jerry P. Will.

Granby:

Adara Ash, Diana Irene Bail, Albert Bessette III,

IN-PERSON from page 9

are tardy you will need to sign in in the front hallway, not in the Main Office."

Nurses office

Students will not be allowed to enter the nurse's office without first ringing the bell and waiting for the nurse to come out.

"It is here it will be determined if you need to enter the nurse's office or go to the medical waiting room," Lemieux said. "The medical waiting room is reserved for students who are exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms that would warrant isolation. This space will have a health monitor who will be protected by PPE and students who exhibit symptoms will be required to remain in that space until they are dismissed from school."

Hallways

Students must maintain six feet of social distancing and follow the arrows on the ground for directional traffic throughout the school.

There are striped areas marked with tape that are deemed non-travel or standing area, said Wood.

"You will notice as students pass through the hallway from class to class, the hallways are marked by one-way traffic," said Wood. "There are constant reminders to keep six-feet apart from each other."

Bathrooms, water fountains and lockers

The bathrooms will all be open and unlocked, with a maximum occupancy of two people per bathroom.

"There will be a bathroom monitor outside of each restroom to ensure occupancy requirements are

met," said Wood. "You'll notice that the water fountains in the building are turned off and not permissible for use."

Hand sanitizing stations are located throughout the building to ensure students are practicing good hand hygiene and hand sanitization.

With video footage showing caution tape and signs over the doors, Lemieux added that the lockers are not permissible for use.

Classrooms

"While in class you'll notice that students desks are six feet apart from each other, all facing the same direction," Lemieux said. "Students will not be permitted to group desks together or partner with a peer. Teachers will like while be six feet away from the first row of desks."

Desks may not be moved or altered in any way. Students will have assigned seating and will not be allowed to change their assignments.

Teachers will not be allowed to leave their desk area, pass out papers or walk or up and down the aisles.

Each classroom will have an air purifier.

"Students are expected to enter into their classroom immediately and log onto their classroom zoom session," said Lemieux. "Teachers will be teaching from behind their desks with a mask and headset on."

Wood also noted that the building has been removed of "all personal effects, extra bulletin boards, posters and other personalized items."

Following lunch, class transitions and mask breaks, students must go to their assigned seat immediately.

Mask breaks

Mask breaks will be taken out-

side of the building at specified times and are weather permitting.

"At the time of your mask break, your teacher will instruct to walk out the designated door single file and proceed to an open area. Once in an open area and six feet apart, you may remove your mask," Wood said.

"As the mask break ends, you will be instructed to place your mask back on your face and proceed to the entrance."

Students will then enter the building in a single file line, maintaining social distance, proceeding to their classroom. They must hand sanitize their hands prior to leaving and upon return, according to Wood.

Lunch

Similarly to classroom arrangements, seating in both cafeterias and the gymnasium, Lemieux explained.

"In a return and a hybrid model South Hadley High School will remain in a long block schedule. For lunches, students be dismissed by classroom and assigned a proper place to eat," he said. "No more than 30 students will be allowed in one of the spaces at a time and students will be assigned by classroom to their eating location."

Students will enter the cafeteria wearing their masks on with their bagged lunches from home and immediately sit in their assigned seat or proceed to a line where they will remain six feet apart to purchase lunch.

Students will remove their masks to eat their lunch. When a student finishes eating, they will place their mask on and proceed to the trash receptacles. Then they will proceed to their assigned seat where they will remain until the lunch is over.

DAKIN from page 7

Honorary Mention - Ann Hurlburt. Hurlburt was praised for her longtime commitment to fostering at-risk shelter dogs and providing enrichment and behavior training. Her dedication has saved the lives of dogs who need extraordinary care prior to being placed for adoption. She has single handedly made Dakin's Snip Trip program possible with her countless drives to pick up animals for clinic ap-

pointments whose people have no access to transportation.

According to Dakin's Executive Director Carmine DiCenso, "This year has been a test of everyone's spirits, and the shining examples set by these individuals inspire all of us. Dakin is very proud to honor them for their incredible dedication to making the world a better place for animals and showing endless compassion for them."

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in need and the people who care about them. The organization shelters, treats and fosters more than 20,000 animals each year and has performed more than 95,000 spay/neuter surgeries since 2009, making it one of New England's largest spay/neuter providers. Dakin is a local non-profit organization that relies solely on contributions from individuals and businesses that care about animals to bring its services to the community. For more information, visit www.dakinhumane.org.

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SUMMARY OF POSITION: The Asst. DPW Director is responsible for assisting the Director in the provision of administrative and supervisory duties pertaining to highway/grounds/cemetery, fleet maintenance, engineering, and any other tasks that are assigned by the Director. Employee will be required to perform all similar or related duties as required. For full job description, go to www.townofpalmer.com. Submit resume and letter of interest or Town application to Town Manager's Office, 4417 Main Street, Palmer, MA 01069. Application can be mailed to 4417 Main Street, Palmer, MA 01069 or by e-mailing rmcnutt@townofpalmer.com. Open until filled.

FOR RENT

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and/or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

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EARLY DEADLINE

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For the week of Nov. 23rd publications

**DEADLINE is
Thursday Noon, Nov. 19**

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► Public Notices

SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES UNDER G.L. c.255 Sec. 39A

Notice is hereby given by **Hampshire Towing, 650 New Ludlow Rd., South Hadley, MA 01075**, pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, section 39A, that a **SEALED BID auction with bids due Monday, November 23, 2020 at 9 a.m.** Vehicles can be viewed by appointment only between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Please call 413-534-5373 for appointments.

The following motor vehicles will be sold to satisfy our garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicles:

2004 Mazda Mazda6
1YVFP80C445N40615 Mark Clegg
57 Bridge St. #3R
South Hadley, Ma 01075

2008 Honda Accord
1HGCP6848A078855
Roberto Cruz
5 Olive Ave 2Back
Holyoke, Ma 01040

2009 Volkswagen Jetta
3VWHZ71K89M135137
Christopher T. ST. Amour
185 Irene St. Apt 1
Chicopee, MA 01020

2001 Pontiac Grand Am
1G2NV12E41M542772

Patrick Hogan
8 Phelps Ave Apt 2R
Westfield, MA 01085

2006 Ford E-Series Chassis
1FDXE4P76DA20515
Surge Home Concepts LLC
115 Garden St
West Springfield, Ma 01089

1999 Chevrolet Prizm
1Y1SK528XXZ426282 Kevin Suarez
303 Maple Street #205
Springfield, Ma 01105

1993 Land Rover Range
SALHV1249PA633636
Juan Acevedo
202 Nonotuck St
Florence, MA 01062

2006 Saturn Relay
5GZDV03L96D217703 No Records Found
No Records Found
No Records Found

2005 Nissan Altima
1N4BL11D75C111616 David Duggan
44 Lawler Street
Holyoke, MA 01040

2003 Nissan Maxima
JN1DA31AX3T433435
Brian Pirog
68 Wallace Ave
Chicopee, MA 01020

2004 Infiniti G35
JNKCV51F74M717068 Steve Marino
5 Pameacha Ave FL2
Middletown, CT 06457

2008 Subaru Impreza
JF1GE61628h514568 Angella

Vazquez
17 1/2 Pleasant St 3RD
Westfield, MA 01085

2007 Audi A4
WAUDF78E57A044473
Maria Iñostroza Baez
101 Lowell St #404
Springfield, Ma 01107

2005 Volvo XC90
YV1CZ592X51216132 Jacqueline Pabon
6 Saint Jerome Ave #2
Holyoke, Ma 01040

2002 Mercury Mountaineer
4M2ZU86W52UJ27998 Catherine Bastien
P.O Box 46
Huntington, Ma 01050

2002 Volvo S80
YVTSP92D921269407 Christina Acosta-Roman
23 Prospect Ave
West Springfield, MA 01089

2007 Chevrolet Express 2500
1GCGG25V271129078 No Records Found
No Records Found
No Records Found

2003 Pontiac Montana
1GMDX13E43D174091 Francisco Rodriguez
140 Logtown Road
Amherst, MA 01002

2002 Acura CL
19UYA42462A003698 Shaniqua Thomas-Harris
83 Sumner Ave Apt 8
Springfield, MA 01108

Boat
LP# 6914AR Ma

Angel Rodriguez
90 River Road
South Hadley, Ma 01075
11/06, 11/13, 11/20/2020

**TOWN OF SOUTH HADLEY
Public Hearing
Tuesday, December 1, 2020
at 7:00 PM
FY 2019 CDBG
Performance Hearing**

The town of South Hadley, in association with the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, will conduct a performance hearing regarding the town's ongoing FY19 Community Development Block Grant Program. The hearing will be conducted remotely via Zoom at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, December 1st, 2020. Please visit https://www.zoom.us to join meeting. (Meeting ID: 897 4467 0459 or Call in: 301-715-8592 Passcode: 233864) The performance hearing will review the projects funded through the town's FY 2019 Community Development Block Grant, including the Housing Rehabilitation Assistance Program and Lathrop Village Improvement Project. In addition, a discussion will be held regarding the town's decision to reprogram approximately \$15,000 of funding from the Housing

Rehabilitation Assistance Program into the Lathrop Village Improvement Project.

As a result of a higher than anticipated bid, the town is confronted with a gap in available funding needed to complete the Lathrop Village Improvement Project. The proposed reprogramming will allow the town to fully fund the project.

These activities and programs are funded through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Department of Housing and Community Development, Massachusetts

CDBG program.

All persons with questions or comments regarding the performance hearing will have an opportunity to submit comments up until and through the public hearing. Please submit comments to John O'Leary at the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission @ joleary@pvpc.org or 413-781-6045. 11/13/2020



PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

- 1 Email all notices to notices@turley.com
- 2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.
- 3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

Public notice deadlines are Mondays at noon, Fridays noon for Monday holidays.

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com



The Long families represents its dinosaur pride at a costume parade at Buttery Brook Park on Nov. 5.



Dana Mengwasser, a CFCE Child and Parent Educator & Early Childhood Behavior Specialist for CES, a Northampton-based, non-profit educational service agency, led a costume parade through Buttery Brook Park on Nov. 5.



(From left to right) Dana Mengwasser of CES and Meg Clancy of the South Hadley Public Library dressed for the occasion last Thursday.

T-BIRDS from page 11

on social media and throughout the community by encouraging fans to share who they fight for. As an added visual element to the campaign, all names submitted will be posted on "I Fight For" placards at the New Valley Bank & Trust branch at Monarch Place in downtown Springfield for the month of November.

"Local businesses and families are fighting through the pandemic and New Valley is right by their side. We can't think of a better way to make a positive contribution to the community as we approach

Costume parade offers children a taste of normalcy

By Dalton Zbierski
Staff Writer

SOUTH HADLEY — The Collaborative for Educational Services collaborated once more with the South Hadley Public Library on Nov. 5. The outcome was a small costume parade that occurred inside of Buttery Brook Park on Willimansett St.

Four families paraded around the park last Thursday, dancing and smiling. For the young participants, the activity offered a much-needed taste of normalcy.

"It's so important for kids to be able to interact; it's something that they've missed out on having schools closed," said Amanda Long, who accompanied her children Niko and Teddy. "At this age, especially, there's really important skills that they develop with social interactions. I'm so appreciative."

Originally scheduled for Oct. 29, the parade was postponed due to inclement weather. The forecast on Nov. 5 was much more favorable.

"I was so relieved when I saw the weather report and saw it would be warm. It's even warmer than I thought, which is fine," said Youth Services Librarian Meg Clancy, wearing a cat costume.

"It's great for the kids, especially, to be able to enjoy a sunny day, get some fresh air and interact with other children that they haven't been able to see for months," continued Clancy.

Alongside Clancy, Dana Mengwasser led the festivity, a CFCE Child and Parent Educator & Early Childhood Behavior

Specialist for CES, a Northampton-based, non-profit educational service agency. Mengwasser relished the opportunity to offer a safe space to play, a human right for children that they noted is protected by the United Nations.

"Kids are kids no matter what's going on in the world, and having social opportunities in whatever way they can is really valuable," said Mengwasser, dressed as a mermaid. "Some families feel safest just doing that in their own homes right now. Other families feel safe doing something outside like this. Whatever families can do to get something social and playful in their children's lives makes a big difference for kids."

Amanda Buckley arrived at the park with her son Owen. Like Long, Buckley voiced great appreciation for the library's continuous efforts to offer programming during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"They've been so amazing, still offering books and putting on programs. It's been what we need. It keeps the spirits high for sure," said Buckley. "They're very impressive and amaze me with everything they do; I'm always surprised and eager to come back and do more programs with them."

Mengwasser credited town officials for allowing the parade to begin before directing an important reminder in the direction of parents.

"Being a grownup who is flexible and wants to meet kids where they're at and have fun together based on their interests is such a powerful thing in children's



Amanda and Owen Buckley pose for the camera at Buttery Brook Park on Nov. 5.



Photos by Dalton Zbierski

Dressed as a dinosaur, Niko Long roams through Buttery Brook Park.

lives," said Mengwasser.

Clancy seconded Mengwasser's take. For Clancy, Nov. 5 was one of the best days of the year.

"It's just a great opportunity for us to actually meet in person with our young patrons and their parents," she said. "With the children, you can always see the smiles through their masks through their eyes. They have smiling eyes, which means they're having a great time."

Last Thursday's parade at Buttery Brook Park was a Coordinated Family and Community Engagement event, made possible by funding provided for by the Massachusetts Dept. of Early Education Care.

More information regarding library programming can be discovered at shadleylib.org.



FOR ALL PUBLIC NOTICES
to run the week of November 23-27, 2020

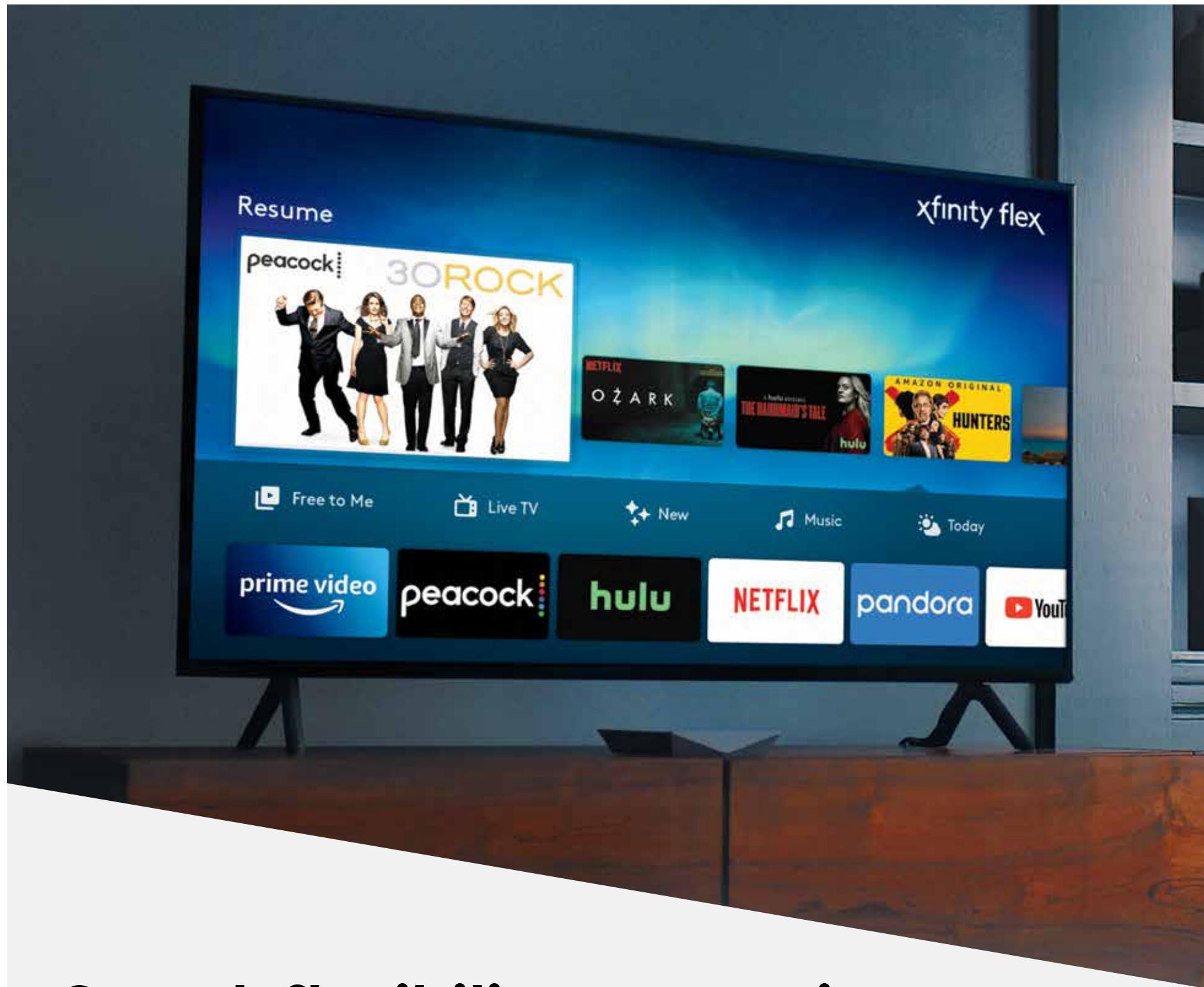
• Wednesday, November 18 at NOON for
The Register, The Wilbraham-Hampden Times,
Agawam Advertiser News and Sentinel

• Thursday, November 19 at NOON for
Barre Gazette, Quaboag Current, Country Journal,
The Journal Register and Ware River News

• Friday, November 22 at NOON for
Town Reminder, The Holyoke Sun and Chicopee Register

the holiday season than to support Hockey Fights Cancer," said New Valley Bank & Trust President and Chief Executive Officer Jeff Sullivan.

Individuals interested in supporting the campaign can submit a name for someone they fight for on the Thunderbirds Facebook page and Instagram account, or by filling a placard out in person at the newly-opened New Valley Bank & Trust lobby at Monarch Place in downtown Springfield. Individuals can also contribute to the Thunderbirds' Foundation directly: <https://www.paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/3391100>.



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